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FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3422
INFO RUEHZL/EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY 1320
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHDC PRIORITY

UNCLAS VIENNA 001366

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE SIPDIS

PASS TO IO/T AND HHS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: PREL AORC TBIO WHO AU

SUBJECT: AUSTRIA ON SMALLPOX DESTRUCTION: NO FINAL EU

**DECISION** 

REF: A) STATE 71569 B) VIENNA 982

(SBU) EconPolOff delivered Ref A points on May 6 to Dr. Jean-Paul Klein, head of the Infectious Diseases Unit at the Ministry of Health and Women, the lead government agency on this matter. In a follow-up conversation on May 10, Dr. Klein said that the EU was in the process of developing a consolidated position on the resolution. While the EU is in favor of maintaining the variola virus stocks, it hopes to find compromise measures that will make the decision more acceptable for African nations. Klein noted that he did not expect the EU would reach a final position until shortly before the start of the WHA. He promised to inform the US Mission Geneva Health Attache as soon as an EU decision materializes.

McCaw